

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

WARD et al

Atty. Ref.: 604-708; Confirmation No.

Appl. No. Unassigned

Group: Unassigned

Filed: January 30, 2004

Examiner: Unassigned

For: COMPACTED BIOMATERIALS

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January 30, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows: